

# Ferris Water Department Information Sheet

City of Ferris 104 S. Central Ferris, TX 75125 Phone: (972)842-2752 Fax: (972)544-2493 www.ferristexas.gov

# APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

To begin utility services, each customer must complete an application for service. By completing the application and service agreement the customer agrees to pay for all charges for service and abide by policies presented here. All applicants should provide proper identification and correct information when they apply for service.

## ACTIVATION

Each customer is required to pay an activation fee to begin new service. Activation fees may be paid by cash, check,or credit/debit cards. Processing fees will apply for credit/debit card payments according to our third party contract. Activation fee amounts are \$200.00 for residential property, and \$200.00-\$400.00 for commercial property depending on meter size.

#### MONTHLY BILLING

The City of Ferris reads all meters during the last week of each month for consumption occurring during that month. Bills are generated and mailed to customers on the last business day of the month. Bills are  $\underline{\text{due upon receipt}}$ , no later than the  $15^{\text{th}}$  of each month. If the 15th falls on a weekend or city holiday, payment must be received before 8:00 a.m. of the following business day. For zero usage, minimum usage rates will apply. Failure to receive a bill or second notice does not relieve the customer from the responsibility of a timely payment or negate any fees or penalties due.

# \*NEW\*: PAY YOUR WATER BILL ONLINE!

Go to www.ferristexas.gov and click on "e-Services". Payments made using this service will have a processing fee added according to our third party contract.

#### **PAYMENT**

There are several payment methods available to customers. The City of Ferris accepts checks, cash, and credit/debit cards. Payment may be made at the Finance Building located at 104 S Central, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Payments may be mailed to the City of Ferris at 104 S Central Ferris, TX

75125. There is also the option of a monthly automatic bank draft, please see the Utility Billing Clerk for details.

# PAST DUE ACCOUNTS/LATE FEES

If a bill is not paid in full by the due date, a late fee of ten percent (10%) of the charges due will be assessed. An account is considered past due if not paid in full by the 15th of the month. If the 15th falls on a weekend or city holiday, payment must be received by 8:00 a.m. of the following business day. All late charges are automatically added at 8:00 a.m. on the 16th. Payments must be received in the City of Ferris' Finance office by the due date, not postmarked, to avoid a late fee penalty.

#### EXTENSIONS ON WATER BILLS

The City of Ferris does not regularly allow extensions on water bills. In the case of extenuating circumstances, a request for an extension may be submitted  $\underline{\text{prior}}$  to the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month, for the assistant finance director to review. If approved, the account will be noted and adjusted accordingly. Each account is allowed only 1 extension during the history of the account.

#### LEAK ADJUSTMENTS

An adjustment may be considered for a customer who has experienced a leak for over 10,000 gallons of water usage. A written statement requesting the adjustment and proof of the leak, such as a repair bill, must be submitted to the department. No more than one (1) leak adjustment may be given to a customer within a six month period.

# DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE FOR NON-PAYMENT

The City has the right to disconnect service for non-payment if payment has not been received by 4:30 p.m. on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. If a bill is not paid in full by 8:00 a.m. on the 21st, a disconnect list is sent to the Public Works Department to disconnect water service. Once the disconnect list is processed, there is a \$25.00 delinquent fee added to each account. A reconnect fee of \$25 is added to each account reconnected before 4:30 p.m. If it is after 4:30 p.m. and you wish to have water reconnected, there is a \$50 reconnect fee added to the account. The total amount due with additional fees must be paid in full before reconnecting water service.

If the 20th falls on a weekend or city holiday, payment must be received by 8:00 a.m. on the following business day.

If water needs to be reconnected after office hours, contact the Ferris Police Department at 972-544-2225. Any and all fees owed will be paid to the Police Dispatcher in person by cash or check only. No credit card payments will be accepted for reconnections after hours. The Public Works department will be dispatched to reconnect your water service. However, there will be no reconnections after  $9:00~\rm p.m.$ 

If water is disconnected and the amount owed is not paid  $\underline{\text{before}}$  the last business day of the month, the account will be finalized and closed. At this point, there will be a new activation fee required (see activation section) to continue water services with the City of Ferris.

### VOLUNTARY DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE

In order to cancel a utility account with the city, the customer must fill out a "Request to Disconnect Service" at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the moving date and provide the city with a new mailing address. Please note: all accounts are billed a cycle behind. (For example, usage from January 27 to February 27 will be due on March 15.) If there is zero usage for the account, there will be a minimum usage charge for each month that the account is active.

#### **METERS**

The meters are property of the City of Ferris. The only authorized person(s) to have contact with the meter is/are city personnel. According to Ordinance 682, Section 50.061, any person, business, or entity in violation of tampering with any meter(s) will be subject to penalties.

#### GARBAGE PICK-UP

Trash days are Monday & Thursday. You will need to have your trash cans out by the curb <u>before</u> 7:00 a.m. on those days or your trash may NOT be picked up. Please contact Waste Management at 800-772-8653 for any brush or large trash pickups. To obtain a pass to the Waste Management Landfill, you will need to show your driver's license to the Water Department. There is a limit of one landfill pass per month for each address. To inquire about holiday schedules for the landfill you can call Waste Management at (972)842-5886.

#### ANIMAL LICENSES

All animals must be registered and licensed with the City of Ferris. There is a maximum of four (4) animals allowed per household. The animal(s) is/are required to be licensed by four (4) months of age. The license must be on the animal at all times. The license is valid for one (1) year from the issue date. The cost of the license is \$6.00. You must provide proof of a current rabies vaccine in order to register your animal(s). The license(s) can be obtained at the Finance Department at 104 S. Central, Ferris, TX 75125. For more information regarding animals please refer to our City Ordinance No. 599.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please visit the City's website at <a href="www.ferristexas.gov">www.ferristexas.gov</a> for our City Ordinances and other important information and/or announcements.